Jute service centres in the Country

2303. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the placese where Jute service centres are functioning in the country;

(b) whether a Jute service centre is functioning in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the nodal agency for operating the above centre in Karnataka;

(d) what are the main objectives of the above centre in Karnataka;

(e) whether there is any proposal to set up extension counters of the above centre in other parts of Karnataka; and

(f) if so, the places selected for opening of extension counters of the above centre in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Jute service centres are functioning at (i) Silchar (Assam), (ii) Agartala (Tripura), (iii) Guwahati (Assam), (iv) Burdwan (West Bengal), (v) Siliguri (West Bengal), (vi) Bhubaneswar (Orissa), (vii) Srikakulam (Andhra Pradesh), (viii) Warangal (Andhra Pradesh), (ix) Chennai (Tamil Nadu), (x) Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), (xi) Bangalore (Karnataka), (xii) Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), (xiii) Delhi (Delhi) and (xiv) Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh). Two extension centres are at Gangtok (Sikkim) and Jaipur (Rajasthan).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. the nodal agency for operating the Jute service centre at Bangalore (Karnataka) is the Karnataka Khadi & Village Industries Board (KKVIB).

(d) The main objectives of this centre are to promote jute diversification activities in the State of Karnataka and to develop new products and product line by synthesizing the existing craft of the region. This will enhance employment-opportunities, especially for women and also accelerate market-awareness about the more environment friendly products, made from Jute.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.